

XXI. *Description of a large Species of Rat, a Native of the East Indies.* By Captain Thomas Hardwicke, F.L.S.

Read February 7, 1804.

I BEG leave to offer to the notice of the Linnean Society a brief description of a large species of rat, a native of the East Indies, which is mentioned by the late Mr. Pennant, in his *History of Quadrupeds*, (3d ed.) Volume II, No. 377. It is also noticed by Dr. Shaw in his *General Zoology*, under the name of *Mus malabaricus*\*; but, as it is the largest of the known species of this genus, and is not peculiar to the coast of Malabar, it may, perhaps, with more propriety be named

MUS GIGANTEUS.

TAB. XVIII.

The *nose* is rounded; the under jaw much shorter than the upper; cutting teeth broad, incurvated, compressed; the lower ones measuring eight-tenths of an inch, and the upper four-tenths in length.

The *ears* naked, large, ovate, much rounded, erect, with the margins a little turned inwards.

The *body* is thick, and much arched; the upper part is most hairy and black; the lower inclining to gray.

\* *Mus griseus*, auriculis rotundatis nudis, digitis plantarum exterioribus brevioribus. *Shaw's Zool. Vol. ii. Part i. p. 54.*

*Linn. Trans. VII. tab. 18. p. 206.*

